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E. CUSHMAN, PUBLISHER AND EDITOR.

"WHAT THOU SEEST, WRITE—AND SEND UNTO THE—CHURCHES."

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COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Christian Secretary.
NATURAL HISTORY.—NO. 17.

CONCLUDED.

Mr. Editor.—There are many points in this
science, or in that portion of it entitled Geology,
to which the attention of your readers has not
been directed. But I deem it inexpedient to con-
tinue this subject any longer in your columns,
lest I should thus exclude some religious articles
that might by some be considered more impor-
tant. The subject of earthquakes and volca-
noes, winds and tempests, or physical geography,
I must refer to some paper more exclusively se-
cular, or a monthly Journal. The study of

MINERALOGY.

Which is the science of unorganized bodies,
constitutes a very important branch of Natural
History. Some persons who are so ignorant as
not to know the value of learning, often decry
against it, and even some persons have so de-
graded and stultified themselves as to preach against
it, not realizing the fact that if it had not been
for man of science, they could never have had
even the bible in a language which they could
understand!

The same may be said of mineralogy.—Had
it not been for men who have devoted their time
and talents to the investigation of this science,
what darkness and degradation would now brood
over the world on this subject. How many mil-
lions of lives have probably been prolonged by
means of mineral medicines compounded by in-
telligent men who had learned their properties by
scientific application; to say nothing of myriads
of other uses to which mineral productions have
been applied.

The ancients believed crystallized quartz (rock
crystal) to be water congealed by exposure to
intense cold, and accordingly applied to it the
Greek term *krystallos*, which signified ice. This
circumstance affords us the origin of the word
crystal, and had it not been for science, their de-
scendants might be boiling crystals to this day in
order with a vain hope to melt them. But the
name crystal has been extended and applied to all
mineral and inorganic substances which exhibit
themselves under the form of regular geometrical
solids.

Individuals may still be found suffering essen-
tial pecuniary losses through ignorance of min-
eralogical science. As an instance in point, it is
said, that a few gentlemen not long since, finding
a mass of nickel, iron, &c., which was probably
a part of some fallen meteor, purchased the lump
at the great price of three or four thousand dol-
lars, under the impression that it was *platina*:
(the heaviest and one of the most valuable met-
als.) They calculated on making a great specu-
lation, and perhaps their fortunes by bringing it
from the south to the north. But what was their
astonishment on arriving at New Haven and re-
ceiving intelligence, that it was worth little or
nothing, except as a specimen or curiosity; which
any person can see by visiting the Mineral-
ogical Cabinet at Yale College, where it still
lies upon the floor.

A little knowledge of the science previously
obtained, would have saved a large sum of cash,
and no small sum of mortification; if I have
been correctly informed. Great impositions are
daily and constantly practised upon those who
are ignorant of this important branch of science.
These well known facts are stated merely to show
that I do not place an undue estimate upon the
value of this study, for young men who are ap-
proaching the threshold of active life and busi-
ness.

How important also to the world, not only that
the nature and character of minerals should be
understood, but *mineral waters* also. Thus for
instance say that "in 25 ounces of Ballston waters,
are found three times its bulk of carbonic acid,"
(an article valuable to the stomach, but deadly
to the lungs), "31 grains of muriate of magne-
sia, 5 grains of muriate of lime, and 4 grains of
carbonate of iron." From such a combination
of materials, it is obviously inferred that good
might result to the public from the use of such
waters. And if in some instances they are found
injurious, the cause is easily ascertained. Such
is the advantage of science on these points. I
have not room to dwell, or I might mention to
farmers, the advantages of finding *marl* and *lime*
for manure and other purposes, *peat* for fuel, &c.,
as they doubtless abound on a multitude of farms,
and perhaps coal too as yet undiscovered from
the ignorance of their proprietors, while a little
study might enrich the owners of the soil, and
the surrounding country with the productions.
Science teaches on what lands they may be found,
and also where research would probably be
vain. I passed over these points while writing
on the subject of Geology in order to hasten more
immediately to the history of organized bodies.

*See Treatise on Mineralogy and Geology, by
Prof. P. Cleveland, L. L. D., page 105.

†To those who may be desirous to study the sci-
ence, I would recommend "A System of Mineral-
ogy" by Prof. C. U. Shepard, of Yale College, in
three vols., price \$4.25, and another valuable work
on the same subject, by J. D. Dana, price \$3.25.—
These two are believed to be the most scientific and
popular works now in use.

Prof. Silliman, when speaking of the positive
utility of Geology, says that everything reposes
upon the mineral kingdom. This earth affords
to man, directly or indirectly, all the materials of
his physical comfort—all those of national wealth,
and all those of civilization. A mere savage,
ignorant and brutal, and the creature of appetite
alone, can never rise from his degradation, until
he has learned to draw from the mineral king-
dom the instruments of arts and civilization; or
at least to use the aids that are thus obtained.
The axe, the hoe, the plough, the loom, are in-
separable means and companions of his advance-
ment; and even moral instruction is wasted upon
him, while he remains a brute. He cannot begin
to practice the Christian virtues while he is sunk
in filth and vice, for physical instruments and
comforts, as well as moral culture, are indispen-
sable to his elevation. The most important of
physical instruments are derived, immediately or
remotely, from the mineral kingdom; for the
vegetable world equally with the mineral, rests
upon this basis; whether we speak of the cedar,
the oak, the lichen, or the grasses, all equally
derive their support from the elements afforded
by the mineral world; which, in its widest sense,
includes not only the solid earth, but its waters,
and all its fluids—its atmosphere and all its gas-
es; the vegetable kingdom borrows but a few
elements from the mineral world, namely, oxy-
gen, carbon, hydrogen, and even nitrogen, and
all that are necessary to vegetable life, are found
in the waters and the atmosphere, while other
elements or compounds, adapted to particular
purposes, are derived from various mineral sources;
the soil, for example, affords silica, to give
strength to the epidermis [bark] of grasses, bam-
boos, &c.; and potassa and soda, derived from
decomposed feldspar, and from other minerals,
pass by absorption into the juices of plants.—
While we explore the orb of fire and water, and
solid rocks, we shall gain the most interesting
knowledge, and much positive advantage.

"Our beautiful planet is worthy of our study;
it was once our cradle—it will soon be our grave,
—between the dawn and the night of life, it is
the scene of our busy action, and from it we shall
arise to another state of being." May we through
the dispensations of that blessed Being who made
and preserves all these things, so improve the
mercies in our hands, that when Christ shall ap-
pear we may be like Him.

It appears to have been the design of Providence,
in the construction of this our planet, and
all its organized beings, so to arrange and leave
them, as best intended to excite our curiosity, and
to stimulate our intellectual powers to the dis-
covery of those laws by which the successive
events in nature are governed. "Without this
excitement," says Bakewell, "man would for-
ever remain the mere creature of animal sensa-
tion, scarcely advanced above the beasts of the
forests; and the universe would be to him a mute
unmeaning succession of forms, sounds, and col-
ors, without connection, order or design." In
those branches of natural science which have at-
tained the highest degree of perfection, the skill
of the Creator, and the ends and uses of the dif-
ferent parts are most distinctly apparent.

It was regarded by the wisest philosophers in
ancient times, and even without the knowledge
of the Bible, as a proof of the future destiny of
man, that he alone, of all terrestrial animals, is
endowed with those powers and faculties, which
impel him to speculate on the past, to anticipate
the future, and to extend his views and exalt his
hopes, beyond this visible diurnal sphere. How
much more evidently is this truth established by
the sacred Scriptures.

I might notice many other advantages from
the study of geology, were it necessary. The
study of Zoology is still but in its infancy, in this
country. Multitudes of animals never before de-
scribed are constantly found by naturalists, and
especially by travellers in Africa. Some quad-
rupeds may yet be found to combine the useful-
ness of the ox and the horse, and yet be valuable
as food.

Many fowls may yet be discovered and do-
mesticated, that shall be more profitable than our
turkeys, geese, and other fowls. This is the
province of natural history. A society which
promises to be successful in its results, has lately
been established in London, on this principle, for
the introduction into the poultry yards of various
animals and birds which have hitherto been ne-
glected. Any process or course of investigation
by study or experiment, the tendency of which
is to provide food for the human family, must be
considered laudable and worthy of encourage-
ment. It is probably well known that the genus
of turkeys was first discovered in this country.
The first ever sent to Spain was from Mexico, in
the 16th century, and the first sent to England was
in the reign of Henry the eighth, in the year
1524, and soon after into France and other parts
of Europe.*

The common wild turkey and our domestic
turkey are the same, *meleagris gallopavo*; an-
other species, the *m. ocellatus*, is found in the
tropical forests of Honduras, somewhat resem-
bling the peacock, the manura and the Bustard
of the eastern continent, but very distinct from
them all. There are but two species of turkeys
as yet discovered. Our tame or domestic duck
also is the same originally as the wild species,
called the mallard—(Anas Domestica of Swain-
son—A. Boschus of Wilson.) It inhabits every
part of the United States from Mexico to 68 de-
grees N. lat., more particularly the western
states.

The study of the economical uses of Natural
History has hitherto been very little cultivated;
it requires more particular attention, but it is a
matter of rejoicing that such a spirit is awak-
ening in our country. Perhaps the most important
application of the subject is to agricultural and
horticultural purposes, and such a spirit of inquiry
is awaking, as encourages and sustains a number
of weekly and monthly periodicals for the benefit
of farmers and the increase of knowledge in their

*See Nuttall's Ornithology, vol. 1 p. 645.

pursuits. Such as the *Genesee Farmer*, *Farmer's
Journal*, *Cultivator*, &c.

It is not improbable but that a multitude of ani-
mals, birds, reptiles, fish and even insects, may
yet be found serviceable to employ as laborers
for the benefit of man; and that knowledge as to
the best mode of raising those which are useful
for food, &c., will be greatly increased.

But perhaps some of your readers may inquire
how young persons in the country can find time
to attend to the study of these numerous branches
of Natural History, compelled as nearly all are
to follow some active business for support. The
answer may be made by inquiring how Benjamin
Franklin, while an apprentice to a printer that re-
quired his services both day and night, could find
time to study, and become eventually not only a
very great *Naturalist* and *philosopher*, but a pro-
found *statesman*. The answer is plain. It was
accomplished by industry and giving a preference
to study rather than idle amusements.

"Hence," says the doctor, "by diligence and
perseverance the mouse ate the cable in two."—
Experience only can satisfactorily demonstrate
what diligence and perseverance can accomplish,
especially when in active operation for a number
of years.

But the question may be put, how shall we ob-
tain books sufficient for each? Answer, Where
individuals cannot procure them, let a reading so-
ciety, or a Society by any other name be formed
in the town, and raise unitedly, funds sufficient
for a class, and let different members study different
branches of Science at the same time, and when
all the members have devoted a suitable portion
of time to become interested in each branch,
which may be few at first, let them meet occasion-
ally and discuss the subjects as far as advanced.
And then procure books for other branches and
proceed as before.

Although few probably would thus at once be-
come professed scholars in either branch, yet a
taste for some one, or all might be induced, and
a great amount of knowledge be thus acquired, with-
out the loss of an hour's labor in the secular cal-
culating of each individual. In the course of a few
years, a valuable library would be obtained, that
might descend to other generations. Such a place
might easily become proverbial for the high at-
tainments of the inhabitants in Science, and be-
sides the fact, that "knowledge is power," the
whole stamp and standing of the society would be
incalculably improved. Because hours spent in
study are not spent in loose and profane company
—hours spent in study preserve from the drams-
shops and the injurious habits of the idle and dis-
olute who infest these places.*

In addition to all other advantages of this course
of study, the money actually saved by industrious
and studious habits, and not expended on follies
and trifles, will be amply sufficient to purchase all
the books that will be necessary for the best lib-
rary in the state, if not in the nation.

The number of books extant on Natural history,
is probably much greater than is generally imag-
ined. Ten years since, the number on this sub-
ject alone in the Library of the Museum at Paris,
in France, was *ten thousand volumes*. And as
attention to this science has greatly increased dur-
ing that period, that splendid collection has doubt-
less very greatly increased, if not doubled, in the
number of books, in addition to many magnificent
designs upon vellum, by Van Spandonck, and other
celebrated artists.

But I cannot well close the subject, without a
few remarks to my brethren in the

MINISTRY.

I have already invited their attention to the
study of Geology, but the whole circle of Nat-
ural History is of such a character, that a minister's
acquaintance with it would contribute very great-
ly to his sphere of usefulness, and afford him large
fields for comparison and grand illustrations of di-
vine truth.

Dr. Chalmers (in his astronomical discourses,
vol. 1, page 9, of the Bridgeport edition of his
works), after quoting the beautiful passage of the
Savior, "Consider the lilies of the field," &c.,
says: "He (Christ) expostulates on the beauty
of a single flower, and draws from it the delightful
argument, of confidence in God. He gives us to
see that *taste* may be combined with *piety*, and
that the same heart may be occupied with all
that is serious in the contemplation of religion,
and be at the same time alive to the charms and
the loveliness of nature." This state of mind is
most desirable for all to possess, whose talents are
consecrated and devoted to enlighten and enlarge
the mind of others.

I do not wish to add any more to the already
multiplied labors of pastors of churches, because
the impression of the people a few years past, has
been, that they were not up to the requirement of
the times, unless they killed themselves, or wore
themselves out in 8 or 10 years, but I hope such
folly is subsiding; and as light and truth prevail,
it is believed, if ministers can devote more
time to study, and be less reproved for not visit-
ing their people, that greater good in the end
will be accomplished, and occasion for dissat-
isfaction with their public performances be vastly
less frequent. The learned Pennant in his trea-
tise on Zoology has particularly urged the atten-
tion of clergymen to this study.

"There is certainly no reason," says the Rev.
Charles Fox, of N. Y., in his learned notice of
the British Naturalists, "why they should neg-
lect, and there are many urgent reasons why
they should cultivate it. It falls in happily with
their professional knowledge. The mysteries of
the creation of God, as well as his attributes, and
his government of the world in his dispensations
to man, it is their duty to study and exemplify;
but while they confine themselves entirely to the re-
vealed word alone, they shut out of sight a vol-
ume which speaks not less forcibly of the love and
excellencies of the Creator, and of his mighty wis-
dom and perfection.

"The world is like an inn, for there
Men call, and storm, and drink, and swear,
While undisturbed, the Christian waits,
And reads, and writes, and meditates."
Let the student adopt the same course.

Many of the most distinguished living natural-
ists of Great Britain are clergymen, among whom
may be mentioned Rev. Dr. J. Fleming, Rev.
L. Jenyns, and Rev. Professors Dr. Buckland and
Sedgwick, Henslow and Whewell. The last
mentioned was president of the Geological Society
of London last year, and Rev. Dr. Buckland is
this year the president of the same. I merely
mention these facts to show how the subject of
Natural History is viewed by distinguished minis-
ters of the gospel in England. All the knowledge
in the world, without a change of heart, cannot
make a good minister of Jesus Christ, but sancti-
fied knowledge is profitable for every godly min-
ister, and for every intelligent being in the uni-
verse.

A more distinguished naturalist than either of
the above mentioned, even Solomon, said, "get
wisdom, and with all thy getting, get understand-
ing."

But I must close. My object in these articles
has been to encourage and afford if possible some
little aid to the contemplation and study, not only
of Geology, but of the millions of species of orga-
nized beings and plants, that God in his infinite
wisdom has created for the benefit of man, hoping
it not impossible, that this manifest goodness of
God might through grace lead some immortal
mind to repentance toward God and faith in Jesus
Christ. It has well been said by a distinguished poet:

—And not content
With every food of life to nourish man,
Thou mak'st all nature beauty to his eye,
And music to his ear."
And again by another:
O God! O God beyond compare!
If thus thy meanness is as fair,
If thus thy beauties gild the span
Of ruin'd earth and sinful man,
How glorious must that mansion be,
Where thy redeemed shall dwell with thee!
Yours, AMICUS.

For the Christian Secretary.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

The Remedy. No. 2.

In my first number upon this subject, the rela-
tion which the pastoral office sustains to the Judg-
ment seat of Christ, was briefly considered. With
deep feelings upon this particular point, a wise
plan of settling a pastor should be united. If the
commencement of the relation be illy arranged,
it cannot be expected to be protracted happily,
no more than a stately tree can be expected to
stand permanently against the winds and storms,
unless it be firmly and deeply rooted in the earth.
I have known so many instances of sudden re-
movals, attended with most unhappy consequences,
turning directly upon an improper plan of settle-
ment, that I cannot but consider it of the first im-
portance to proceed differently in the commence-
ment from what many churches do.

The more common method is, to hear the can-
didate preach one or two Sabbaths, and the terms
are at once agreed upon, and he removes with
his family to his new field; necessarily ignorant
from so slight an acquaintance of the peculiar
state and disposition of the people, and they
likewise but very little acquainted with his. For
a while things work well. But shortly, the novel-
ty wears away; more unlovely features appear
to each party, (which a longer probation would
have discovered;) uneasiness commences, and of
a sudden, a separation takes place, and the church
is left destitute.

I will therefore show what I consider a more
excellent method of settling a minister.

1. *I would extend the time of trial.* One or two
Sabbaths' preaching is not sufficient, unless a
previous, thorough, mutual acquaintance has been
had. It cannot show the minister's adaptedness
to the place. It cannot afford sufficient opportu-
nity for mutual acquaintance. Three, or even
six months' probation is decidedly preferable:
because it would give time more clearly and dis-
passionately to decide upon the propriety of form-
ing a relation so momentous to both parties.—
The church, through their intense anxiety to have
a pastor, should not be precipitate. They should
let "patience have her perfect work," not "be-
ing unwise, but understanding what the WILL of
THE LORD is." The will of God may not al-
ways be expected to be revealed suddenly, but by
gradually unfolding providences. And how
much better to wait six months before forming
the pastoral relation, than to enter into it pre-
maturely, and be compelled to sunder the tie in
the same time, or in one, or even two or three years.
How much less tribulation, distraction and dis-
couragement to Zion, to part with a candidate than
a settled pastor.

But in this case, a special duty rests upon the
church towards the candidate. And that is, to
remunerate him for the time he is among them as
fully as they would if he was their stipulated pas-
tor. This would measurably do away the anxie-
ty he might feel for his family, whose support is
dependent on his income, and relieve him of the
necessity of hastily urging an immediate decision
of the church to settle him. Generally, churches
pay less for a supply, than for the services of a
pastor. But in the case of a candidate for settle-
ment, this should not be. Then, his mind be-
ing easy on this subject, both parties could mu-
tually labor and pray to know what God would
have them do. Coming together as they would
under such circumstances, well acquainted with
each other, fully apprised of all faults and blem-
ishes, and having seriously and coolly considered
all the encouragements and all the embarrass-
ments, the relation would assume a far more per-
manent form than it possibly can under the
present precipitate method.

2. *I would have the entire church agreed in his
settlement.* I mean male and female, met in a
solemn meeting on this particular business. This
is a matter not to be huddled up in a cloister, nor
conducted clandestinely. Every movement
should be frank and open, and the business in
hand perfectly understood by all. A society
merely, a committee, or a party in the church, have
no more authority to settle a pastor, than Uzziah

had to steady the ark,—whom God smote for his
rash act.

It belongs to the united church alone, met in a
body, to decide this point. Nor should they take
the question without previous solemn and fervent
prayer for the teachings of God's Holy Spirit in
their minds, directing to a wise, a felicitous choice.
See Acts vi. 1—6, where an account is given of
the manner in which deacons are to be elected.
And is it of less consequence to proceed prayer-
fully in the choice of a pastor?

If any members feel a trial in their minds,
and cannot act unitedly with the main body, such
trials should be made known; and unless such
members can be satisfied reasonably, and their
entire cordiality secured, let the meeting be ad-
journed, till the church, the entire church, can
feel a full flowing union of heart in this impor-
tant concern. Such a question must not be suf-
fered to pass by a mere majority of votes, leaving
a minority under trials grievous to be borne.

3. *I would have the settlement understood for
life, except for extraordinary reasons.* The prac-
tice of "hiring a minister" by the year, is faulty.
It looks too secular. And it is needless to agi-
tate the question so often. Besides, calling up
the question periodically, "who shall be our min-
ister another year," opens the door for whatever
of prejudiced feelings may exist in some narrow
minds, to make their appearance against the pre-
sent incumbent, which otherwise might never be
vented; or if so, would not produce party effects:
but by mild and gentle reproofs might be entirely
removed, without resulting, as they have done in
very many instances, in unsettling the church of
their pastor. The effect upon both church and
pastor, of calling up this question annually, are
most deleterious:—filling their minds with per-
plexing anxieties about the future, which might
be wholly avoided by settling the question once
for all. The question of settlement should be
called up only in the beginning of the relation:
that of salary annually, if the church please;
and that of dismissal, never, except it be for ex-
traordinary reasons, which I need not here spe-
cify. EUDOLPHUS.

P. S. In my next No. this particular point
in the agreement between the church and pastor,
will be considered.

For the Christian Secretary.

THE OTHER SIDE.

Two knights were travelling in opposite direc-
tions, and met each other, at a place where a
shield was suspended over the road. They
stopped to look at the shield, and exchange salu-
tations. One of them remarked that the shield
was of brass, but the other said that it was of
silver. The former repeated his declaration, and
the latter repeated his. The one maintained
with increasing vehemence that it was of brass,
the other of silver. The dispute waxed hotter
and hotter, till from words they came to blows.
At this time, another cavalier rode up, asked
the cause of dispute, and was referred to the shield.
He looked at it carefully, and said—"Why, you
are both right and both wrong. The shield is
brass on one side, and silver on the other. Gen-
tlemen, the next time before you fight, you must
look at both sides!"

Thus it is very desirable, in the discussion of
any subject, to look carefully at both sides, before
we make up our minds permanently and decided-
ly respecting it. On this account, we shall ven-
ture to present one side of the question touching
the removal of ministers, to which the correspond-
ents upon the subject in the Christian Secretary
have not sufficiently adverted, and which some
of them have entirely overlooked. They ap-
pear to regard such removals as an unmingled
evil, and one for which the ministers themselves
are chiefly responsible. Whether they are not
somewhat mistaken upon these points, may per-
haps be ascertained by a reference to some facts.
For these we shall not go beyond the borders of
our own State, except with regard to one general
fact, which all those who have written on the
subject have overlooked. In the United States
we have, in our denomination, about 7000 churches,
and somewhere about 3,500 or 4000 minis-
ters. Some of these churches are not able to
support a minister, others of them are unwilling
to do so. But a very large number are both able
and willing to do so. Upon a fair estimate we
have some two thousand churches of this descrip-
tion, destitute of a settled ministry. Now how
are they to be supplied with pastors, say only for
five years in twenty, if all the pastors who are
now settled over churches remain where they
are permanently? But, it will be replied, many
of them will leave from dissatisfaction on the
part of the churches. Well then, we would ask,
is this the only cause for which a minister ought
to leave his people, and must he wait in all cases,
till he knows that his people are tired of him?
We are all aware that a church will not volun-
tarily give up their minister unless they have be-
come dissatisfied with him in some respects, or
have come to the conclusion, which is pretty
much the same thing, that his labors with them
can be no longer useful. Besides, does not this
make every church the judge of what constitutes
a minister's duty? Does it not deprive him of
his free agency in a matter of most serious conse-
quence to him, and does it not render a separation
in all cases, a most humiliating and painful thing?
But we proceed a step further, and maintain that
all our churches cannot have a proportional share
of pastoral labor, without occasional changes.—
The thing is utterly impossible in the present
state of the denomination; and we would here
ask, if those churches, which by the good provi-
dence of God, happen to be supplied with ac-
ceptable ministers, have any prescriptive right, a
right given them by God, to retain their ministers
as long as they shall choose? Have the des-
titute churches no claim upon them, and must
they suffer, simply because they happen to be
destitute? But the force of this argument may
be obviated by saying, as is often done in such
cases, we had better adopt the Methodist plan
out and out. No, by no means, for this deprives
both ministers and churches of their free agen-

ey. It subjects them to an artificial, and sometimes a most despotic system of arrangement and control.

Is it not possible that a minister may have good and substantial reasons for leaving a people with whom he is perfectly united, which he does not feel himself at liberty to communicate to the public, and must be subjected to their censure, because he does not consult them, or conform to their views? "Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth." "Judge not, that ye be not judged." Further, what authority does the word of God furnish for the sweeping views which have been announced, respecting the impropriety and even wickedness of such changes? Did all the pastors of primitive churches remain with their people till they got tired of them, or were ministerial changes very unfrequent in those days?

But we promised some facts upon this subject, drawn from the churches in Connecticut. In the first place, we have known several instances in which ministers have left churches, much attached to them, and greatly averse to their leaving, which instead of being injured, have been benefited, by the change. We have not known one which has been injured eventually by this means. On the other hand, we have known several, at least a dozen, during the last ten years, which have been greatly injured, by dismissing their ministers, because they had become dissatisfied with them. As a general thing, ministers prefer to stay with their people, provided they can be comfortable and useful. We have known only one or two, who left apparently for the sake of a larger salary; and far be it from us to say that that was their motive. In one of our most united and efficient country churches, five of their ministers have left during the last ten years. The first left because the people appeared to be somewhat dissatisfied, the second because they were decidedly so, the third because he felt it his duty to occupy another field, although the people were much attached to him, and supposed they would be almost ruined by his removal—a thing which never happened; the fourth left from dissatisfaction on the part of the people, and the fifth, from the same cause. Another of our country churches, large and wealthy, has had three ministers within about six years, and all have left from dissatisfaction in the people. In one of our city churches, one of their ministers, an able and excellent man, left, because they would not erect a larger and more commodious meeting-house. We know nothing about their previous ministers. In another city church, two of their ministers have left since their constitution; one, because some of the people were dissatisfied, and the second, because he felt it his duty to do so. This church is still in a prosperous state, and is likely to be so. In another city church, within our recollection, three of their ministers have left from dissatisfaction in the people, and one of them died after spending a number of years among them, with great acceptance. I might cite other instances, but these will suffice for a specimen. Your readers will doubtless be able to satisfy themselves upon this subject, by personal observation.

In conclusion, we venture to deduce only a single inference. It is this, that churches are more to blame than ministers for frequent removals. But that we may not leave a false impression upon this subject, we beg to assure our friends, that the dissatisfaction in the churches to which we have referred as the most prolific cause of removals, may have been perfectly just in some instances, in others it may have been very slight, and in others, it existed only among a very small minority of the members.

To this also we may add, that we regard the very frequent removals of ministers to be an evil, but not so great a one as it is usually imagined. It is to be corrected, not by vague and general denunciations, but by an increase of piety and practical wisdom among both ministers and churches.

A LOOKER ON.

For the Christian Secretary.

It is well known that out of 12,000 professed Baptists in Connecticut, there are many excellent brethren and sisters who feel unable to pay two dollars in cash for the Secretary, though a very cheap paper at that price, but they would probably labor to earn that amount for any honest employer, who would take the trouble to forward the money to the publisher for them.

As it is now near the commencement of the year, how many able farmers and mechanics who hire laborers, can be found willing to look up such Baptists as would rejoice at the opportunity to do their work, provided they could obtain the Secretary for payment, for the use and benefit of themselves, and perhaps rising families? I may say it without boasting, that I have taken a great many years of the Secretary in this way, and the pleasure of being instrumental of doing good to some poor families, has rewarded me a hundred fold; besides, the fact is, that in the end, there is no pecuniary loss.

Could a few hundred Baptists do the same, it would greatly increase the circulation, and perhaps make many a pious heart rejoice. There is more pleasure in doing good, than in receiving it. How many shall we hear say, *I will try to find at least one!*

AMICUS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HOW TO BE LOVED.

"One evening, Maria's father related in her presence, an anecdote of a little daughter of Dr. Doddridge, which pleased Maria extremely. When this child, about six years old, was asked, what made every body love her? she replied, 'I don't know, indeed, papa, unless it is because I love every body.' The beautiful simplicity of this reply struck Maria forcibly. 'If this is all that is necessary in order to be loved,' thought Maria, 'I will soon make every body love me.' He further mentioned a remark of John Newton, that he considered the world to be divided into two great masses, one of happiness, and the other of misery; and it was his daily business to take as much as possible from the heap of misery, and add it to that of happiness. 'Now,' thought Maria, 'I will begin to-morrow to try to make every body happy. Instead of thinking all the time about myself, I will ask, every minute, what I can do for somebody else. Papa has often told me that this is the best way of being happy myself, and I am determined to try.'—Pastor's Daughter.

TRUE MORAL COURAGE.

The Rev. Mr. Fletcher had a very wild and profligate nephew in the army, a man who had been dismissed from the Sardinian service for very bad conduct. He had engaged in two or three duels, and had spent all his money in vice and folly. The wicked youth waited one day on his eldest uncle, General De Gons, and presenting a loaded pistol, threatened to shoot him unless he would that moment advance him five hundred crowns. The General, though a brave man, well knew what a desperate fellow he had to deal with, and gave a draft for the money, at the same time speaking freely to him on his conduct. The young man rode off in high spirits with his ill-gotten money. In the evening passing the door of his younger uncle, Mr. Fletcher, he called on him, and began with informing him what General De Gons had done; and as a proof showed a draft under De Gons' own hand. Mr. Fletcher took the draft from his nephew, and looked at him with surprise. Then after some remarks putting it into his pocket, said, 'It strikes me, young man, that you have possessed yourself of this note by some wrong method; and in conscience, I cannot return it but with my brother's knowledge and approbation.' The nephew's pistol was in a moment at his breast. 'My life,' replied Mr. Fletcher, with perfect calmness, 'is secure in protection of an almighty power; nor will he suffer it to be the forfeit of my integrity and your rashness.' This firmness drew from the nephew the observation, 'that his uncle De Gons, though an old soldier, was more afraid of death than his brother.' 'Afraid of death?' rejoined Mr. Fletcher, 'do you think I have been twenty five years a minister of the Lord of life, to be afraid of death now? No sir, it is for you to be afraid of death. You are a gamester and a cheat; yet call yourself a gentleman! You are the seducer of female innocence; and still say you are a gentleman! You are a duelist; and for this you style yourself a man of honor! Look there sir, pointing to the heavens, 'the broad eye of Heaven is fixed upon us. Treachery in the presence of your Maker, who can in a moment kill your body and forever punish your soul in hell.'

The unhappy young prodigal turned pale, and trembled with fear and rage.—He still threatened his uncle with instant death. Fletcher though thus threatened, gave no alarm, sought for no weapon, and attempted not to escape. He calmly conversed with his profligate relation; and at length perceiving him to be affected, addressed him in the kindest language till he fairly disarmed and subdued him! He would not return his brother's draft; but engaged to procure for the young man some immediate relief. He then prayed with him; and after fulfilling his promise of assistance, parted with him, with much good advice on one side, and many fair promises on the other.—*Christian Recorder.*

LETTER FROM BR. KINCAID.

We are more than usually burdened with long articles this week, but the following letter from brother Kincaid to Dr. Paine, of Albion, N. Y., is so interesting that we cannot think of withholding it from our readers. We copy it from the N. Y. Baptist Register.

MY VERY DEAR FRIEND AND BROTHER.—My last letter gave you an account of our leaving Mergui, for the purpose of going up to Ava, and that on getting up to Amherst I received letters giving me information that things were becoming worse in Burmah. Since that time I have remained in Maulmain. Up to the present time, no material change has taken place in the political aspect of the country. Col. Benson was sent up to Ava, but the king and his court refused him an audience. A bamboo shed was built for him on a sand-bank, some distance from the city, and there he remained in dignified retirement for six months. No officer of any rank came near him, and all intercourse with the inhabitants was cut off: not even a fisherman dared approach the residency. Insult was added to neglect; and not being supported by his own government, Col. Benson at length succeeded in leaving the capital. He left Capt. M'Leod, his assistant at Ava, and how long he will remain is uncertain.

You see by this that the policy of the English government in India is pacific in the extreme.—The difficulty is this: if there is a war, the English must take a part or the whole of the country; and they dread the occupancy of any more territory. The king of Burmah could probably collect an army of one hundred thousand men; but the great mass of them being peasants, forced into the army, they would run away as soon as brought into action. Five or six English regiments would convert all Burmah into English provinces, in one season. I cannot doubt that such an event will take place. The haughtiness and ignorance of the Burman government will force such a result. It may be delayed for years, but it will come to this at last. One thing is morally certain, either the English power in Asia must be annihilated, or the boundaries of their territory must be continually enlarging.—At this very moment the English are at war with Persia, and some eight or ten confederated nations beyond the Indies. Then Nepal on the north, and Burmah on the east, are threatening.

To those who are looking and laboring for the universal spread of the gospel, these events are fraught with interest unknown to the mere politician. Ancient nations are being melted down, the despotism of ages is overthrown, innumerable warlike and savage tribes are brought under the restraints of law, and thus a way is opened for the heralds of the King of kings. It is a most remarkable phenomenon in history, that a vast empire of more than a hundred millions of people have been subjugated, and are now governed, by a few thousand Englishmen. I believe there are only between forty and fifty thousand Englishmen in all India, including both the civil and military establishments. In addition to this one hundred millions under British rule in India, all the surrounding nations, or about two hundred millions more, are held in check, and kept from making war on each other. This is the triumph of mind over matter, and such a triumph as the world never saw before. One third part of the human family there, are either governed, or all their political movements controlled by a mere handful of men.

You will doubtless ask, what is the character of the English government in Asia? There is much room for improvement, but under all the circum-

stances of the case, as good as could be expected, and at all events a hundred fold better for the people than any native government. Just as enlightened views prevail in England, abuses in the Indian government are sought out and corrected, and the inhabitants are made to feel that their happiness and welfare are not disregarded. An extensive system of education is now being set in operation, which in time must work an entire revolution in the mental character of India. In addition to this, the subject of missions is taking a deeper hold upon the sympathies of Christian people, and an earnest effort is making to pour in upon all these nations the light of revelation. Who can take a calm and comprehensive view of all these movements in the providence of God, and not have his heart cheered and his faith strengthened? Christian nations have become tired of war. They are now turning to the cultivation of science,—to works of internal improvement, to the diffusion of useful knowledge, and to the promotion of peace and good will. The church is waking up from ages of slumber, and, in the spirit of the gospel, entering upon the work of enlightening the whole world.

To me every thing looks encouraging. A better system of things is rising into existence. It is true that our missionary operations are slow, but still the work is begun. The Bible is translated into nearly all the languages extensively spoken, and churches are growing up wherever the gospel is preached. A vast amount of preparatory work is done, and we may confidently hope that as the native churches increase in numbers, and grow in knowledge and in grace, they will come out nobly in the work of winning souls to Christ; that the Holy Spirit will be poured out upon them, so that nothing can withstand the boldness and energy with which they will every where publish the word of God. If we push on vigorously in the fear of God, we may expect great things. "The Lord's arm is not shortened, that he cannot save." The rapid conversion of the Karens is an intimation of what God will do in coming years. The conversion of about three thousand souls in Hindostan, at a place called *Krishnagur*, is also evidence that the day of God's power is at hand.

In 1837 the gospel was preached to that people, and scriptures and tracts were given them. In fifty-five different villages, more than five hundred families were powerfully wrought upon by the gospel, saw their lost and ruined condition, and believed in Christ the Saviour of sinners. We have not faith, and therefore are not prepared for great blessings. We are too apt to despond, as did Ezekiel, when looking over the vast field of death on every side of us; and well we might despond if no Divine energy was promised. But the Spirit of God is promised, and while we preach, the dead are raised to life.

On the 23d of March, between three and four in the morning, Ava was visited with one of the most terrible earthquakes ever known in this part of the world. A loud rumbling noise, like the roar of distant thunder, was heard, and in an instant the earth began to reel from east to west with motions so rapid and violent, that people were thrown out of their beds, and obliged to support themselves by laying hold of posts. Boxes and furniture were thrown from side to side, with a violence similar to what takes place on board a ship in a severe storm at sea. The waters of the river rose, and rolled back for some time with great impetuosity, strewn the shores with the wrecks of boats and buildings. The plain between Umerapura and the river was rent into vast yawning caverns,—running from north to south, and from ten to twenty feet in width. Vast quantities of water and black sand were thrown upon the surface, emitting at the same time a strong sulphureous smell. As you will suppose, the three cities of Ava, Umerapura, and Sagaing, are vast piles of ruins, burying in their fall great numbers of unfortunate people who were asleep at the awful moment. The destruction of life, however, is not so great as might have been expected from the entire overthrow of three large and populous cities. The reason is, the great mass of the people live in wood and bamboo houses. Had the houses in these cities been built of bricks and stone, as cities are built in America, the entire population must have perished. Everything built of bricks, houses, monasteries, temples, pagodas, and the city walls, are all crumbled down. Of all the immense numbers of pagodas in Ava, Umerapura, and Sagaing, and on the Sagaing hills opposite to Ava, not one is standing. The labor and wealth of ages, the pride and glory of Buddhism, has been laid low in the dust, in one awful moment. To me this is a deeply affecting thought; for in great numbers of those proud temples of idolatry, I have preached the gospel; and while hundreds were bowing down before huge idols, I have proclaimed the power, majesty, and glory of that almighty Being who sits enthroned in the highest heavens; that the day was at hand when God would vindicate the honor of his name; and that all these proud monuments of heathenism would fall into hopeless ruin, and be forgotten by succeeding generations. Some were convinced, some had their confidence in idols shaken, but the great multitude were quite indifferent. Some few would zealously defend their religion. Little did I then think that the hour of God's vengeance was at the door, and that so soon those enormous idols, and lofty temples—the labor of thirty generations—were to become a frightful mass of ruins.

Letters from Ava, up to the 11th of April, inform us that the rumbling noise, like distant thunder, had not yet ceased; and shocks, often considerably violent, were felt day and night, with seldom as much as an hour's intermission. The extent of the great shock, or rather the succession of great shocks, on the morning of the 23d of March, is not yet fully ascertained. It was felt so severely in Maulmain, that many sprang out of bed, supposing a gang of thieves had broken into the house; yet it was not violent enough to do any damage. As far as is now ascertained, Prome to the south, and Bomee to the north of Ava, were entirely overthrown by the earthquake; so that from Prome to the borders of China, more than six hundred miles north and south, embracing the most populous part of the empire, not a single pagoda, temple, or brick building is left standing. The earthquake was severe in Arracan, and an old volcano on the island of Bromree, was re-

opened, and the long concealed fires, mingled with smoke and ashes, rose to a fearful height. It remains to be ascertained yet, how far this great earthquake extended into China; but as there are several volcanoes among the mountains between Burmah and China, it is more than probable to me that there are subterranean communications between these volcanoes in the north, and the volcanoes in the south, as among the mountains between Arracan and Burmah, and in the island of Bromree, and also on the Andaman islands in the Martaban gulf. The two extremes are more than 1000 miles apart, in a direct line north and south. But the fact that the whole intermediate country was shaken at the same moment, and a prodigious subterranean noise was heard, resembling the rolling of thunder, is, I think, satisfactory evidence that there are subterranean communications between these widely separated volcanoes. How else can we account for so terrible an earthquake over so vast an extent of country? The coincidence of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes is not remarkable, but that several hundred miles of territory, with all its mountains and rivers, should be thrust up, and thrown into undulating motions at the same moment of time, accompanied by sounds from the centre of the earth, like the rolling of thunder, are phenomena which cannot be accounted for on any other supposition than that of vast subterranean lines of communication between volcanic mountains.

I have been thus particular, because I know you feel much interest in such great physical revolutions as occasionally take place upon the surface of the earth. It is useful to reflect on such events; the powerlessness of man is better understood. He speaks, and the pillars of the earth are moved.

Br. Judson has a pulmonary complaint, and has not been able to preach for several months. Br. and sister Bennett have gone to America, on account of Br. Bennett's poor health. Br. and Sister Howard were both so ill that a voyage to Ponnang was advised, and they have gone. Mrs. Kincaid and myself have been medically advised to go to America, and remain one or two years. I have no particular disease, whatever, but general poor health, with almost constant attacks of slow fever. I am in hopes, however, of getting over it.

There is much prospect that when the rains are over, there will be war with Burmah. Large armies are now collecting in that country. Pray for us.

Dr. L. C. PAINE.

CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

HARTFORD, JANUARY 24, 1840.

End of the World.

A good brother from a neighboring State has been in this city during the present week, avowing the most ardent and confident belief in the doctrine preached by Mr. Miller (now, we believe, in Boston), that the first resurrection, and the closing up of human probation, are to take place in the year 1843. We had some conversation with him, and found him exceedingly enthusiastic in his predictions, and as firmly fixed in his faith with regard to their accomplishment, as in respect to his own existence. He professes to demonstrate his doctrine entirely from the Scriptures; taking as the basis of his calculations, the "seventy weeks" in Daniel's vision, and the "thousand, two hundred and three score days" in Revelation xi. 3. We have also heard it intimated that some one or two of our own good citizens are strongly inclined to adopt this theory.

Now we sincerely advise all Christians to be very cautious in embracing opinions, (and especially in expressing them,) with reference to fixing any definite period for the accomplishment of these prophecies. We might (if necessary,) proceed to show the injurious results which must follow the promulgation of such doctrines—the effect always has been bad, and it always will be—but we think a very little reflection will convince every one of the evil consequences, at least, if they should after all find themselves mistaken in their calculations—and we hazard little in saying that all such calculations will most surely prove erroneous. For wise purposes, "the times and the seasons" are hidden from the knowledge of man. The Bible is perfectly clear upon this point.

But, said our pious brother from abroad, "It is our duty to study to ascertain exactly what the Bible teaches—it is unsafe to believe more than this book teaches—to believe less, equally unsafe." We quote his own words, though we cannot so easily portray the earnestness of manner with which he laid down this position. Now so far as this applies to his theory, we think he is all wrong. True, it is our duty to believe what the Bible teaches; that is, we should believe that all which is there recorded will be fulfilled; but that we are bound to fix upon any definite time for its fulfilment, is certainly a mistake. We are under obligation to believe that the day of judgment will come, but we are not required to form any opinion at all as to the time when it will come—indeed, we are not sure but it is wrong for us to fix upon any specified period for this event. "Of that day and hour knoweth no man; no not even the angels in heaven."

We might write a column or two of speculations and reasons to show why we consider our friend's prediction not correct, but it would be useless. As we remarked last week, it is our duty, and the duty of all, to live, not as though the end of our probation were to come in 1843, but as though it were to come to-morrow. "Ye know not what a day may bring forth." Every day, and every night, the period of probation is closing up with thousands of our fellow beings; and

so far from having any certainty that we shall live until 1843, we have no assurance that we shall see the end of this year, or this week. Oh that we might all realize this important truth!

REVIVALS.

We find several interesting accounts of revivals, in our exchange papers this week, but we are under the necessity of condensing them.

At Cato, Cayuga Co., N. Y., a glorious work has been experienced. Not far from one hundred and fifty persons have been hopefully converted to God.

At Mecklenburg, Tompkins Co., N. Y., twenty-one have been baptized since the first of December, making ninety-six during the past year.

The work in Albany (as appears by a letter in the Baptist Advocate,) is progressing with increased power. "Rich and poor, young and old, moral and immoral, infidels and Universalists, are alike constrained to submit to the mandate of Jehovah—Jesus. In several instances, whole families have together turned to the Lord."

Some of the Baptist churches in New York city are enjoying interesting seasons. In the Beaman Baptist Church, under the care of Eld. A. Perkins, between twenty and thirty conversions have occurred—also quite a number at the 16th Baptist Church, Br. Backus, pastor.

At Sanbornton, N. H. seven youthful converts were baptized on the first Sabbath in this month. A pleasing revival is enjoyed by the church in Gilford, N. H.

At Cleveland, Ohio, a very powerful work is going on. Large numbers have been added to all the evangelical churches in that city.

A letter from Br. Wm. Harris, in the Religious Herald, dated at Bedford, Va., Dec. 24, mentions the conversion and baptism of towards a hundred persons in different churches in that region.

At Parsonsfield, Me., a revival is enjoyed by the churches.

The First Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., are experiencing a very interesting season.—Twenty have recently been baptized, and hundreds appear to be seriously concerned for the salvation of their souls.

"Deny Thyself."

The duty of self-denial is always binding upon the disciples of Christ, but there are often special occasions when they are called upon in the providence of God to make special sacrifices for the promotion of His cause. We regard the present as such a time. It is a time, as every one knows, when money is peculiarly hard to be raised, and yet all our associations for the spread of the gospel are suffering for want of money. Perhaps God is thus making a trial of the faith and love of his people. Brethren, shall we shrink from the test? Our Master knows how far our ability extends, and he will not try us beyond our strength. How much, then, are we willing to "deny ourselves" for Christ's sake? Let each answer for himself.

TEXAS.

The Springfield Republican contains a letter from a correspondent in Houston, Texas, under date of Nov. 20th, giving melancholy accounts of the ravages of yellow fever in that city during a few weeks preceding, and speaking of the great destitution of religious privileges throughout the province. The writer says, in concluding his letter:

We have no preaching of the gospel of any order. We are in want of all orders of evangelical Ministers, and of Bibles. I feel and acknowledge the importance of strictly obeying the injunction of our Savior, "Search the Scriptures;" but the fact is we have not all got the Bible.

"Will you whose souls are lighted
With wisdom from on high;
Will you to men benighted
The lamp of life deny?"

"A WIDER FIELD."—Brother Beebe, of the N. Y. Baptist Register, thinks that many ministers who seem to feel very much cramped in the field where the Lord has placed them, and are looking for a "wider field of usefulness,"—would do well to look first and see whether they have faithfully cultivated the field where they are.—Some farmers, he says, will complain of the smallness of their farms, and wish for a larger one—a wider field to display their skill and industry—when, if you examine the farms of these very men, you find "a patch of Canada thistles in this corner, a profusion of burdocks in another, and elders and briars sadly disfigure another; and yet they talk about a wider field." There is something in this. It is he that is faithful in a few cities, that shall be made ruler over many.

HARD TIMES, SURE ENOUGH.—We understand that a clergyman in a town a few miles east of Hartford, recently in re-preaching an old sermon, stated to his congregation as a reason for so doing, that "the times were so hard, that he could not get money enough to buy paper to write new ones."

WE publish to-day the concluding number on Natural History. It is rather long, but we thought best to give it entire. These articles have perhaps all been longer than some of our readers have desired, but it is a subject which could not well have been more condensed, and they have certainly contained a great deal of very valuable information.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—We put "Endolphus" and "A Looker On" together this week, and our readers may thus see a little of both sides of this much talked of subject.

Dedication and Church Constituted.

A neat, commodious Baptist meeting house was dedicated to the service of God, by appropriate religious exercises, at White Hill, Huntington, Conn., Jan. 14, 1840, at 10 o'clock, A. M. An excellent discourse was delivered on the occasion, by Rev. James J. Woolsey, from Rev. 1: 5. "Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood." The weather was favorable—the assembly was large and attentive. No doubt a happy impression was made on the audience.

At 2 o'clock, P. M., 18 brethren and 26 sisters were by a council called for the purpose, publicly recognized as a Baptist Church, in the same place. The order of exercises was as follows—1. Reading the Scriptures, Br. L. Atwater. 2. Introductory Prayer, Br. Wm. Denison. 3. Sermon, Br. A. Parker, from 1 Tim. 3: 15. 4. Right Hand of Fellowship, Br. Jas. W. Eaton. 5. Address to the church, Br. W. Biddle. 6. Address to the congregation, by the Methodist clergyman at Birmingham. 7. Concluding Prayer, Rev. Mr. Panderson, of the Congregationalist church, Huntington. 8. Benediction, by the preacher.

The services were very interesting—the sermon was well suited to the occasion. The topics discussed were, 1. The origin. 2. The objects of the Christian Church. Under the first head, the speaker ably exhibited the views generally entertained by the members of our denomination; under the second, he showed clearly and impressively the appropriate work of the Church, and her consequent obligations. He observed that on the first topic, erroneous views prevailed among two very different classes of persons. The infidel assumed that the church originated with man—while some denominations of Christians, for the purpose of controversy, maintained that she sprang from Judaism. The positions defended by the preacher were, that the church originated with God, and that she had no existence until the day of Pentecost. Under the second head, he showed, 1. That the Church was the depository of the truth. 2. That she was to be the medium of its dissemination throughout the earth. 3. That she was to be the friend and patron of all pure morality. 4. That she was to preserve and diffuse abroad the spirit of piety. 5. That she is to evangelize the world.—These positions were well sustained, and the effect of the whole discourse was good.

This body was recently a branch of the church at Weston. Some of them were gathered in by the labors of Br. Wm. Denison, and some of them by their present minister, Br. Alva Gregory. The region in which the meeting house stands was formerly very irreligious. A new era has commenced in its history. Its inhabitants will now have the opportunity of attending, as often as the Sabbath returns, the house of God. Many of the present generation, we hope, will be converted, while of those who are yet to come on to the stage of action, multitudes will be brought to the knowledge of the Saviour—For this may every Christian devoutly pray.

We cannot avoid remarking on the prospects of the Baptist cause in the county in which this church is situated. They are rapidly and continually brightening. In less than three years, there have been 3 churches constituted, as many meeting houses have been, or will be speedily opened for divine worship. The ministry has been enlarged in numbers. Considerable accessions have been made to several of the churches. A spirit of love and union binds these different parts of the body of Christ together, which the association formed within the same period tends greatly to foster. There is in this county, an interesting field of labor. Most of the churches are supplied with pastors. The church in Norwalk is yet destitute, and the church in Bridgeport will be so after the first of April. Both of these churches are now looking for pastors.

J. W. EATON, Clerk of the Council.

[COMMUNICATED.]

BA. CUSHMAN.—Many of your readers in the southeastern part of this State, I do not doubt, have both heard of and seen Mr. — Miner, a pious and interesting old gentleman of the Methodist persuasion, who for many years has been totally blind, and who has been accustomed to peregrinate a good deal in that part of our state.

The following lines upon "Father" Miner's blindness, are the effusion of a poor girl of very limited literary advantages.—I send them to you as they emanated from her pen, without correction or alteration.

Father M. is, for aught I know, still among the living, but Mary, the author of the lines, has, after much physical suffering, "crossed Jordan's tide," and I trust is ready to welcome her venerable friend, when after crossing the same dark waters, he "shall see again."

His natural sight from him withdrew,
His path with darkness filled,
Yet still he ever kept in view
The light of Zion's hill.

The morning star with him would rise,
And scatter night away,
Although he could not with his eyes,
Perceive the shining day.

The heavenly Spirit is his guide,
Throughout this dreary plain,
And when he crosses Jordan's tide,
He then shall see again.

Then be contented to resign,
On earth, your natural sight,
Since Christ a present help you find,
To guide your steps aright.

"SABBATH SCHOOL TREASURY."—We feel it a privilege, as well as a duty, to recommend this excellent little publication. It is published monthly at Boston, by the N. E. Sabbath School Union—79 Cornhill.—H. S. Washburn, agent, to whom all orders, &c. should be addressed. This is the only work of the kind in our denomination, and as a valuable and interesting magazine for children, it is not excelled by any in the country. It has commenced the year in a new and very neat dress. We commend it to the universal patronage of Baptist Sabbath Schools and families. The price is only fifty cents per annum.

The Chr. Reflector contains an interesting, though rather long, obituary notice of Dr. Henry Lyon and his wife, formerly of Woodstock, late of Monson, with a particular request for us to copy. We find it impossible to do it this week, but we will try to make room in our next.

We learn that Dr. S. Fuller, Physician to the Insane Retreat, has resigned his office, with the intention of establishing himself as a physician in the city.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.—Mr. Eastman, Secretary of this Society, was in this city last week, making an appeal in its behalf. He made some very interesting statements at the North Baptist church, on Wednesday evening, and read several extracts from letters recently received from abroad, showing the urgent need of immediate help. An interesting meeting for this object was held at the Centre church on Sabbath evening previous. The Congregational churches raised quite a liberal sum for the Society; but owing to the fact that the two Baptist churches had just made an extra effort to raise five hundred dollars for foreign missions, their contribution to the Tract Society was small in proportion. We hope, however, that this object will not be forgotten. The Society have resolved, if possible, to raise \$44,000 this year, \$8,000 of which is appropriated to our own foreign mission stations.

Br. David M. Burdick, late of Hamilton Institution, was ordained as pastor of the Arkwright and Fiskville Baptist church in Scituate, R. I., on Thursday, the 9th inst. Sermon by Br. J. Dowling, of Providence.

Br. Joseph Huntington was ordained as pastor of the Baptist church in East Williamstown, Vt., on the 1st inst. Sermon by Br. F. Blood.

We understand that the pastoral connection between Br. J. W. Eaton and the Baptist church in Bridgeport, will close on the first of April next.

"An O—F—B—" is respectfully reminded that there is one Lord and Master to whom he and we are alike accountable—he for what he writes, and we for what we publish. Under a sense of that accountability, we shall endeavor to act, and we will only refer him to the same tribunal.

ERRATUM.—In "Natural History, No. 15," in the Secretary of Jan. 10, several typographical errors escaped. The most important is in the second column, about half way down, where Aristotle is said to have lived "3,000 years before Christ." It should have been 300 years.

"L. B. S." and one or two other communications are necessarily deferred until next week.

An interesting communication from the mission in Greece, may be found on our fourth page.—Owing to the crowded state of our columns, we have omitted the usual poetical department this week.

CONGRESS.

The Senate were occupied during the last week principally in discussing the Independent Treasury Bill. An amendment was adopted, increasing the salary of the proposed Receiver General at St. Louis, to \$2,000—also increasing the salary of the Treasurer of the Philadelphia Mint to \$2,500, and of the Branch Mint at New Orleans to \$3,000. On Friday, the bill as amended, was ordered to be engrossed—yeas 24, nays 18. The Senate then adjourned to Monday.

In the House, the disposition of petitions on the slavery question, has been the chief topic of discussion, and has caused much excitement. On the 15th, Mr. Coles of Virginia, proposed the adoption of a rule that all memorials on the subject be at once laid on the table without debate. He made a long defence of his motion, saying that if he had his own way, he would burn up all the abolition memorials, for they deserved no better fate. He concluded by moving the previous question. This created considerable excitement, and many members were instantly up to protest against this summary way of proceeding, and asking for an opportunity to reply. Mr. Coles refused to withdraw his motion, and the discussion was continued upon points of order, amidst much disorder, until the House adjourned. On Thursday and Friday the debate was still continued on the motion of Mr. Coles, he having finally (we believe) withdrawn his motion for the previous question.

THE LEXINGTON.

Since our last, the melancholy particulars of the burning of the Lexington, with the attendant loss of life, have been received. We give below (from the New York Journal of Commerce,) a list as near correct as can be ascertained, of the names of those on board. Yet it is not certain that this is all.

Capt. Charles Hilliard, the only passenger known to be saved.
Mr. Isaac Davis of Boston.
Mr. John Corey of Foxboro', Mass.
Mr. Chas. W. Wolsey of Boston.
Mr. John Brown of Boston.
Mr. J. Porter Felt, Jr. of Salem.
Mr. Abraham Howard, firm of Howard & Merry, Boston.

Mr. H. C. Craig, firm of Maitland, Kennedy & Co. New York.
Capt. J. D. Carver of Plymouth, Mass., of bark Brontes.

Alphonso Mason, Esq. of Gloucester, Mass.
Mr. Chas. Bracket, clerk to N. Bracket, N. Y.
Mr. Robert Blake of Wrentham, Mass., President of Wrentham Bank.

Mr. — Fowler of New York.
Mr. Wm. A. Green, firm of Allen & Green, Providence.
Mr. Samuel Henry, firm of A. & S. Henry, Manchester, Eng.

Mr. R. W. Dow, firm of Dow & Co. N. Y.
Mr. Chas. H. Phelps of Stonington.
The widow of Henry A. Winslow, firm of Winslow & Co. of N. Y.

Mr. John Winslow of Providence.
Mr. Wm. Winslow, do. father of the above. The three last mentioned persons were returning to Providence, with the corpse of Mr. H. A. Winslow, who died in this city a few days since.

Rev. Dr. Follen of Boston.
Mr. Adolphus Harden, superintendent of Harden's express. He had in charge \$20,000 in specie for the Merchant's Bank, Boston; and from forty to fifty thousand dollars in Bank notes.

Mr. — White of Boston.
Mr. Pierce of Portland, mate of the Brontes.
Capt. E. J. Kimball.

Capt. B. T. Foster, late of the Jno. Gilpin.
These Captains had recently returned after several years absence, and were on their way to visit their families at the East.

Mr. — Everett of Boston, returning from the burial of a brother, who died here last week.
Mr. Royal T. Church of Baltimore.
Mr. Richard Pickett of Newburyport.

Capt. Low, agent of the Boston underwriters.
Mr. — Ballou, or Bullard of N. Y.
Capt. Theophilus Smith of Dartmouth, Mass.

Mr. Chas. S. Noyes, clerk to C. B. Babcock, N. Y.
Mr. Albert E. Harding, firm of Harding & Co., N. Y.

Mr. John Hoyt, mail contractor.
Mr. Henry J. Finn, comedian.
Mrs. Russel Jarvis of N. York, and two children.

Mr. John W. Kerle of Baltimore.
Mr. Weston, firm of Weston & Pendexter, Baltimore.

Mr. John G. Brown, firm of Shall & Brown, N. O.

Mr. Walker of Baltimore, with Mr. Kerle.

Mr. Stephen Waterbury, firm of Mead & Waterbury, N. Y.

Mr. J. A. Leach, son of Mr. Leach, (Leach & Lovejoy,) Boston.

Mr. E. B. Patten of New York.

Mr. N. F. Dyer of Pittsburgh, formerly of Braintree.

Mr. Nathaniel Hobart of Boston.

John Brown, a colored man.

Mr. H. C. Bradford of Boston, from Kingston, Ja.

Mr. Charles Lee of Barre.

Mr. John G. Low of Boston.

Mr. John Lemist, Treasurer of the Boston Leather Co. of Roxbury, Mass.

Mr. Jonathan Linfield of Stoughton, Mass.

Mr. Philo Upton of Egremont, Mass.

Mr. Van Cott of Stonington, Ct.

Mr. Stuyvesant of Boston.

Capt. Mattison.

A gentleman, lady, and two children, who arrived from Philadelphia by the morning line—name not known.

Robert Williams of Cold Spring, N. Y.

David M'Farlane, mate of brig Clarion.

James Walker, and John Gordon, seamen, of Cambridgeport, from brig Raymond.

Wm. H. Wilson, grocer, of Williamsburg, L. I.

late of Worcester, Mass.

Patrick McKenna, No. 7 Monroe Street, N. York, clerk with Donnelly & Hyatt.

Royal Sibley of Pawtucket.

George Benson Smith, recently of Brooklyn.

Eliza Brown, Jr. of Stonington, nephew of Silas E. Burrows, Esq.

Charles Bosworth, or Boswell, school-master, of Royalty, Vt. (from 37 Franklin st.)

Mr. Lawrence, firm of Kelley & Lawrence, N. Y.

Mr. Green, of Minot, Maine, agent of the Minot Shoe Manufacturing Company.

Charles Eberle, of the Theatre.

William Nichols, (colored,) steward of steamboat Massachusetts.

Dr. Joshua Johnson, of Philadelphia.

Thomas James Taylor, of New York, formerly of Boston.

Joseph Ray, 2d mate of bark Bohemia, Kennebec.

J. Wilkin.

Gilbert Martin.

John Wyeth.

In addition to the above, we find the following names in some of the papers, whether correctly or not, we are unable to say:

Erasmus Coleman, of the Pavilion, Boston.

Thomas Bleeker, carpenter, Dedham, Mass.

J. O. Swan left the Globe hotel for one of the 3 o'clock boats, but it is by no means certain that he took the Lexington.

BOAT'S COMPANY.

Capt. George Childs, commander. Jesse Comstock, clerk. H. P. Newman, steward. E. Thur-

bur, 1st mate. Mr. Crowley, 2d mate, (saved.) Mr. Manchester, pilot, (saved.) Job Sand, head waiter.

Cortland Hempstead, chief engineer. Wm. Quimby, 2d do. Martin Johnson, Coxswain. R. B. Schultz, 3d do. George, Benj. Cox, and Chas. Smith, (saved) firemen. Five colored waiters. Susan C. Holcomb, chambermaid, colored. Joseph Robinson, cook, colored. Oliver Howell, 2d cook, do. Robert Peters, do. 8 deck hands; 1 boy, deck hand. 2 wood passers. Bar-keeper.

The steamboat Statesman was sent out on Thursday morning, by the proprietors of the Lexington, to cruise in search of bodies, baggage, &c. About 30 chests and trunks had come ashore at different points on Long Island, and the shore was strewn with fragments. Five bodies were found, viz: Mr. Philo Upton, of Egremont, Mass., at Old Field Point; two seamen and Mr. Waterbury, of New York, in one of the quarter boats which had drifted ashore at Miller's Landing; and a little boy, near the same place—all frozen quite hard and stiff. The body of Mr. Hempstead, chief engineer, and of Job Sands, waiter, floated ashore at Southport. The Courier and Enquirer of the 20th inst. says:

The bodies found in the boat at Miller's landing, we are informed, were all frozen stiff and stark, and much covered with ice. All were in a sitting posture, with the eyes closed as in sleep. That of Mr. Waterbury had the head thrown backward and one hand lifted up, as if in supplication to the Deity. The boy who was picked up about 200 rods to the eastward of Old field light, had his two little hands raised to his ears. The body of Mr. Hempstead, the Chief Engineer, which floated ashore at Southport, Ct., was buried yesterday at Brooklyn, a very large concourse of people attending.

Three persons only were saved alive—Capt. Hilliard, saved on a cotton bale, as stated in our last; Mr. Smith, one of the hands, who jumped overboard from the burning boat about 8 o'clock, and swam to a bale of cotton, after floating on which five hours and a half, he got back to the wreck and warmed himself for an hour by the fire, and then got on that part of the wreck from which he was picked up the next day; and David Crowley, the second mate, whose preservation was still more wonderful. He drifted ashore at River Head, on a bale of cotton, about 7 o'clock, Wednesday evening, being 48 hours exposed to the severity of the weather, after which he made his way through large quantities of ice, and swam before gaining the beach, and then walked three quarters of a mile to a house! His feet and hands were very much frozen, and the result was at first considered somewhat doubtful, but we believe he is doing well.

But the most cruel and inhuman part of the story is related in the following extract of a letter from Capt. Comstock, of the steamboat Statesman:

Capt. Wm. Terrell, master of the sloop Improvement, was with his vessel within 4 or 5 miles of Lexington at the time she commenced burning, and thinks if he had immediately repaired to her assistance, he would have been able to have saved a great number of lives. The reason he gives for not doing so, is, that he would have lost his tide over the Bar to the Port to which he was bound, and accordingly pursued his demon-like course, leaving upwards of 100 persons to die the worst of deaths.

If this be true, (and we have not seen it denied,) we envy not that man his feelings. Will not the blood of those unhappy victims cry to him from their resting place in the deep, as long as he lives? And will not the lamentations of the widow and the orphan ring in his ears? Who would exchange situations with him?

The Providence Journal states that several suits have been commenced against the owners of the Lexington, by persons in that city, who had goods on board.

INCIDENTS OF THE LEXINGTON.—The following stories show on how small a circumstance our life sometimes depends.

When the Philadelphia morning boat arrived Monday the 13th, one of the gentleman passengers called a hack, and agreed with the driver to take him up to Eighth street. Another gentleman being about to get in, the former admonished the driver that he must not zig zag about the city, but go directly to Eighth st. "Yes sir," said the driver, "I will take you first, it will not be out of the way for this gentleman."

When the hack had gone on some distance, the two gentlemen fell into a conversation, and the second stated that he was on his way to Boston, and was then going to the Providence boat. "To the Providence boat, sir!" exclaimed the other, "why, we started from the very next pier to the Providence boat, and here this rascal of a hackman is taking you a journey of three miles, and you will certainly be too late."

Such was the fact; but the gentleman imposed upon, was out of health, and could not help himself, and so

had to go the round, and probably pay for it too, and be made too late besides, for the Lexington had gone when the hack returned, and so the man's life was saved. This story shows the advantage of being cheated, and is calculated not to make us approve of fraud, but to rejoice that there is a Providence, which can bring us so much good out of so vexatious an evil.

One of our citizens who was very anxious to go to Boston in the boat of Monday evening, was, by a series of apparently untoward circumstances, prevented from finishing his business at Philadelphia, in time to return here on Saturday, and as he could not conscientiously travel on Sunday, he remained at Philadelphia, until Monday. His Boston trip was accordingly deferred, and thus his life was saved. This shows the advantage of keeping the Sabbath.

Another gentleman had made all his arrangements on the Saturday previous, to take the boat on Monday for Stonington. But learning that a creditor who held a small demand against him, was watching his opportunity to catch him, and reflecting that the boat would be the place at which he was sure to be found, he determined on taking the New Haven route, and so his life was saved. This shows the advantage of being in debt. Let no man complain of his lot in this respect. Doubtless there are many more cases, in which some little occurrence, seemingly unmeaning, prevented persons from being on board. Oh! that it had pleased the good Being who guides our destiny, to have turned all feet away from the Lexington on that day.—Journal of Commerce.

FIRE AT SPRINGFIELD.—The Springfield Gazette of Wednesday, the 15th inst., contains the particulars of a serious fire which occurred there on Sunday evening. The fire originated in the machine shop of Mr. Charles G. Rice, plumber, in the south part of the town, which was destroyed, together with all the contents, and a barn adjoining, belonging to Mr. Trask. The loss is stated as follows: C. G. Rice, \$3,500, insured \$2,500. Solyman Merrick, hardware manufacturer, \$4,000, insured, \$2,500. Wm. Lancy, machinist, \$1,600, no insurance. Blake and Decker, blind factory, \$1,100, no insurance. The Gazette states that about forty persons have been thrown out of employment by this fire.

It has been ascertained that this fire was the work of an incendiary—a boy only fourteen years old, who goes by the name of John. He has been arrested, and confessed his guilt, also implicating another boy, who has fled.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 8.

DEATH OF THE KING OF DENMARK.—This morning at half past 9 o'clock, his Majesty King Frederick VI., after a short indisposition, departed this life, and was gathered to his fathers.

This day at noon his successor, Christian Frederick, (son of the hereditary Prince Frederick, half brother of the deceased and of the Princess Frederica, of Mecklenburg Schwerin,) was proclaimed King of Denmark, the Vandals and Goths, Duke of Schleswig Holstein and Lauenburgh, &c.—Hampshire paper.

[Frederick VI. of Denmark, was born in the year 1762, and ascended the throne in 1808. He had consequently reigned 32 years.]

It is stated that the projected Methodist college of Mississippi has received a subscription of seventy-six thousand dollars. The edifice will be commenced as soon as a site is selected for location.

Norris Wilcox has been re-appointed by the President, as U. S. Marshall for the district of Connecticut.

DEATH.—The New Orleans papers announce the death of Gen. Robert T. Layle, of Cincinnati, formerly a member of Congress from the Cincinnati District, who died Dec. 21st.

PUNCTUALITY.—Some of our friends may read a lesson in the fact, that a policy on one of the buildings lately destroyed by fire in Providence, expired the morning before the occurrence; but the owner had renewed it, and the morning after received the amount of his loss; thus by timely care, saved himself from ruin.—Baltimore Post.

PIRATES ON THE MISSISSIPPI.—The New Orleans Picayune gives an account of another attempt on the part of some of the river pirates, to murder the crew and take possession of a flat boat. Two men went on board a boat at Natchez, with the ostensible intention of purchasing it and the cargo. They however came to the conclusion to go to New Orleans in her and buy it there in New Orleans funds, at a price agreed upon. The only persons on the boat were an old man and his son. When they arrived near Red River, the two passengers commenced an attack upon the owner. They first struck the old man with an axe, and inflicted two very severe wounds. They then made a dash at the son, but he jumped overboard and swam to the shore. His escape frightened the ruffians, and they took the skiff attached to the flat boat and made their escape. They have not yet been arrested.

DROWNED.—Henry Laurens Dickenson, aged 12 years, son of Mr. E. B. Dickenson, was drowned in the Connecticut River, near Haddam, on the 3d inst.

FIRE AT WETHERSFIELD.—The barn of Rev. Caleb J. Tenney was consumed, on the 16th inst., with all its contents—supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

SHOCKING DEATH.—We learn from a passenger who arrived at the City Hotel on Friday evening, that a man in a sleigh was instantly killed on the railroad track between Worcester and Springfield, on Friday. He had stopped his sleigh directly on the track, and did not hear the bell which was rung by the engineer, and was probably not aware that the cars were near. The engineer shot off the steam-cars but the locomotive struck him, dashed out his brains and killed him instantly. The sleigh was dashed to pieces, but the horse escaped.—Hartford Courier.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT PENSACOLA.—The Mobile Chronicle of Jan. 3, says:—We learn that a destructive fire occurred at Pensacola on the morning of the 29th ult., destroying five buildings, and the progress of which was only stayed by pulling down two others. No estimate of the loss.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.—The Senate, on Friday last, elected George Hall, Lieut. Governor—after which a committee was appointed to inform Judge Morton and Mr. Hull of their election.—On Saturday the oath of office was administered to them.

MARRIED.

In this city, on the 15th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Hawes, Mr. Francis Atwood, to Miss Eunice E. White.

At Wethersfield, on the 1st inst., by Rev. Dr. Chapin, Mr. William F. Whitney, of Harvard, Mass., to Miss Jane A., daughter of Mr. John Flint.

At New London, on the 1st inst., Mr. Joseph Potter, of Mystic, to Miss Mary Flower; on the 7th, Mr. Joseph Rogers, to Miss Francis Clifford; on the 12th, Mr. James T. Williams, to Miss Charlotte Goddard.

At Deep River, on the 12th inst., by the Rev. Henry Wooster, Mr. Spencer Read, to Miss Electa Watrous.

At Kent, 18th ult., by Rev. William W. Andrews, Capt. Wm. N. Reid, of Plymouth, to Miss Cornelia S. Spooner, of Kent.

DIED.

In this city, on the 17th inst., Miss Phoebe S. Gabriel, aged 35.

At Wethersfield, on the 10th inst., Mrs. Tammy Morris, widow of Mr. Elijah Morris, aged 70.

At Newington, on the 11th inst., Mrs. Mary G. Smith, wife of Mr. Samuel Smith, aged 34.

At Rocky Hill, on the 13th inst., Mrs. M. Goodale, aged 35, wife of Mr. Nelson Goodale; on the 15th inst., Mr. Thomas Danforth, aged 84; on the 19th inst., widow Mehitable Williams, aged 75.

At East Windsor, on the 12th inst., Abiel Wolcott, Esq., aged 78.

At Lyme, on the 19th ult., Mrs. Mehitable Chadwick, wife of Guy Chadwick, aged 70; on the 3d inst., Mr. John Manwaring, aged 72.

At Waterford, on the 2d inst., Mr. Joseph Tinker, aged 89 years.

At Monville, on the 11th inst., Mr. Henry C. Ames, in the 41st year of his age.

At East Haddam, on the 2d inst., Miss Sarah, daughter of Mr. Chevers Brainard, aged 18.

At Bolton, on the 20th ult., Mrs. Leora L. Maxwell, of Coventry, aged 43.

At Canterbury, on the 17th inst., Mrs. Esther Cleveland, relict of Gen. Moses Cleveland, in the 74th year of her age.

At West Stockbridge, Mass., 11th inst., Mrs. Lydia Wren, (formerly Warner,) aged 56. Mrs. W. was from Saybrook, Ct., but had resided in Bridge-water, Pa., for many years. She was on a visit to her daughter's when disease overtook her, and she shortly departed in the triumph of faith, having long been a member of the Bridgewater Baptist church.

Receipts for the week ending Jan. 22.
W. P. Chamberlain, 2 00; D. Grover, 13 69; R. Crane, 6 00; O. N. Lull, 6 00; D. Angor, 2 00.

NOTICE.—The Ministerial Conference of Hartford Association and vicinity, will meet in Southington, on the 2d Tuesday of February next, at 10 o'clock, A. M. The assignment of parts may be found by referring to the Christian Secretary of Dec. 27.

G. L. RUSSET, Sec.

NOTICE.—The Ministers and Deacons conference of Litchfield County, and vicinity, will meet at the Baptist meeting house in Sandfield, Mechanicsville, on the first Wednesday, the 5th day of February next, at half past 10 o'clock, A. M.

T. BENEDICT, Secretary.

The Hartford County Temperance Society will meet in Bloomfield on the 4th Tuesday, 28th day of January, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Services in the afternoon at half past one.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

From the Baptist Magazine.

GREECE.

COMMUNICATION OF MR. PASCO.

In a communication submitted by Mr. Pasco since his return to this country, we have the following statements respecting the importance of missionary labors in Greece.

Our efforts are in behalf of a people who, though not heathen, are yet far from being truly Christian. External ceremonies, constructed after the model of the imposing services of the Jewish, and sometimes even of the heathen rituals, are manifestly more esteemed by them than the simple institutions and spiritual worship demanded by the Author of Christianity—the Pattern and Head of the church. The various correct expressions of doctrine contained in their public prayers and confessions of faith, and the very language of scripture commonly employed to indicate the affections and duties of piety, are, too generally, either not understood at all, or perverted from their true meaning by glosses and false interpretations. The voice of conscience—of individual responsibility to God—is so far soothed at the confessional, that men can here cherish the habitual commission of sin and all its acknowledged enormities, sometimes without compunction, and always in the hope of absolution, through the performance of penance, of supposed works of merit, and by the propitiated favor of saints and the holy virgin. While the multitude are pressing on in this condition, grasping greedily whatever may subserve the gratification of the desires of unenlightened hearts, in the pursuits of pleasure or the rush of ambition—the lips of those who should teach them knowledge, the way of reconciliation to God, and the path of holiness and life, are on these subjects almost wholly locked in silence. In general, the professed teachers of religion not only need themselves to be taught what be the first principles of the oracles of God, but to attain also those elements of the Christian life which are indispensable to a right assumption of the sacred office. Both priest and people seem settled on their lees, not only satisfied with their condition, but puffed up with spiritual pride, arrogantly boasting themselves the successors of the apostles, the depositaries of their dogmas and authority, the only true and unblemished church of Christ on earth.

The public services of religion are invariably in the language of a former age, now imperfectly understood even by the learned, and spoken by none. Till very lately, the scriptures were accessible to the people only in this ancient language, and at the present time they are carefully and habitually read in the modern dialect by but very few. The doctrines and duties of religion are seldom regarded as suitable subjects for the private examination of laymen, and very unfrequently become the topics of serious conversation. Thus, with a priesthood deficient in the most essential requisites of the holy profession, the people slumber on in the darkness of superstition, and perish for lack of knowledge. And in proportion to their ignorance and superstition, may be reckoned their blind subservience to the interests and degrees of an ambitious hierarchy, whether these relate to their own personal aggrandizement, or to the boasted transmission to posterity of the unblemished integrity of all the ceremonies and customs received by tradition from their fathers.

Such considerations as these, from the multitude which press upon us daily, are enough to show at once, that the effectual preaching of the gospel here must be a great and arduous work. If we were to allow ourselves to be satisfied with limited and partial views of the subject, it might be thought appalling. If we were to measure the claims of duty by the amount or severity of the toil requisite to its accomplishment, we might perhaps be induced to turn away from this to some apparently more inviting and less difficult field, and lose sight of the fact that the magnitude and arduousness of the work before us are not greater than its importance and necessity. It is for souls who perish that our spirits are stirred within us—for souls as precious as our own—each one of whom, in the estimate of Him who died for sinners, infinitely transcending in value the wealth of all the world. We trust it is the love of Christ which constrains us. And though the work is great, and the obstacles to success may seem appalling, as opposed to mere human power and sagacity, we are not disheartened. The difficulties could not have been less when the apostles at first preached the gospel here, to Jews and Greeks, while it was to the one a “stumbling block,” and to the other a “foolishness.” But it triumphed. And the deserted temples, with their sculptured memorials of heathenism, which remain broken and crumbling monuments of the ancient splendor and of the once dominant religion of the country, are not more sure demonstrations of the power which then attended the preaching of the gospel in these strongholds of superstition, than the precious promise of the Savior to his apostles, when sending them forth to preach the gospel to every creature, is now a pledge of his unceasing care for the success of his cause, and of his blessing upon those who faithfully obey this commission.

Increased demand for the Scriptures.

We have been greatly cheered and encouraged by the opening for the dissemination of evangelical truth at Patras. It is a blessed privilege to have an instrumentality in the distribution of the holy scriptures, in giving to those who ask for themselves and their children the bread of life, the holy book in a language which they can understand. The operations of the mission in this department for two years, have, I believe, been glad when, at the close of the first year, we could state that nearly one hundred copies of the New Testament had been disposed of to interesting applicants. We saw, with increased gratitude, the larger demand of the following year, when we recorded the distribution of 989 vols. of the Old Testament and 1501 of the New Testament, besides 20 Italian bibles, and one German bible, 6 English bibles and 4 English testaments,—in all, 2521 volumes, together with a large number of religious tracts.

And still the good hand of the Lord is upon us in the work. So much has the demand been increased, that several times towards the close of the last, and in the early part of the present year,

we were compelled to suspend the distribution on account of having exhausted the stock of books on hand, before a fresh supply could be obtained. Arrangements, however, have been more recently made through the kindness of Rev. Mr. Calhoun, Agent of the American Bible Society, which will, we trust, secure the mission from interruptions of this kind hereafter. The work of distribution has gone on, during the past half of the present year, for a period amounting to about three and a half months. In this time, (as I learn from the estimate prepared by Mr. Love, at the beginning of July,) there were distributed 2704 volumes of different parts of scripture, besides religious tracts to the amount of 314,381 pages. In one month only, from April 15 to May 15, the distribution amounted to 118,215 pages of tracts, and 993 volumes of scripture.

Applications have been made to us from almost all classes of society, from the town and country. More or less have been made from probably every town around the gulf of Corinth. Individuals have been supplied who came from the central, western, and south-western parts of the Morea, from north-western Greece, the Ionian Islands, and from a multitude of villages and towns in Albania, and some from remote parts of Turkey in Europe.

Many private village schools have been supplied with scriptures and other useful religious books, at the solicitation of the teachers, or of other persons of influence who were concerned in the schools. These teachers are not sustained by government, and their schools, through the poverty of the people, and from other causes, are generally extremely destitute of appropriate books. In some, probably nothing else could be found besides one psalter, in the ancient version of the septuagint, and a few primers, of about four pages each, containing the alphabet, a few exercises in forming syllables, and some prayers in ancient Greek.

Thus you see that a wide door has been opened at Patras for the circulation of the scriptures and evangelical books, and for the communication of religious instruction. And thus far the good work has been prospered; not indeed always in exact accordance with our calculations, but ever in such a manner as to leave on our minds the deep impression that the affairs of the mission are in the hand of an infinitely wise Providence. The Lord has been better to us than our fears. He has often far exceeded our hopes.

Mr. Pasco subjoins, in conclusion,—

Though it has pleased our heavenly Father, by the failure of my health, to remove me from a participation in the actual labors of the mission, I feel that I cannot, and pray that I never may, separate it from my affections. I would commend its objects and interests, and especially the dear family now left to bear its accumulated burdens and responsibilities alone, to the affectionate sympathies and prayers of the churches, and to the solemn consideration of such young men as are called of God to consecrate themselves to the work of missions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRITISH DRINKING USAGES.

John Dunlop, Esq., President of the General Temperance Union of Scotland, has recently written a work entitled “The Philosophy of Artificial and Compulsory Drinking Usage in Great Britain and Ireland; containing the characteristics, and exclusively national and convivial, laws of British Society; with the peculiar compulsory festive customs of ninety-eight trades and occupations in the three Kingdoms; comprehending about three hundred different drinking usages.” In the London Christian Observer for November there is a review of the book, from which we copy below. It exhibits the picture of a slavery in the British isles as extensive and debasing as any which exists in any part of the world.

As Mr. Dunlop's work consists for the most part of a mass of details relating to a great variety of trades and occupations, it does not admit of abridgement; nor would a few extracts relative to particular trades present an adequate representation of the ramifications of the system.—We will however quote a specimen.

ENGLISH TAILORS.

When a boy first goes to the shop, he is employed by the men to fetch beer; he collects the money to pay the public house, and has on this account two pence in the shilling. The apprentice footing varies from 7s. 6d. to 20s., with a backing of 6d. each by the other men. At expiration or loosing, it is 50s. or 80s. or sometimes the parents give a supper. At marriage 5s., with a backing of 6d. each. At a birth, 1s., with a backing of 6d. each. The pay is generally on a Saturday night; the men are frequently ‘linked’ together, and required to adjourn to the public house, which is their ordinary rendezvous, in order to procure change and divide.—The score for the week is here paid. One informant knows of men being kept very late in this trade—sometimes till Sunday morning—before the pay is obtained. If a man, on taking away a smoothing iron, leave the fire in disorder, he is fined a quart of ale. There are some cases where a way-goose is given by the master; but in general, instead of this festival, there is a bean-fest in the month of August, to which the master contributes 20s., and the men make it up, in shops of average size, to about £4. The friendly societies of trade generally meet in a public house, where at least 3d. must be drunk by each member for the use of the room. Sometimes, if two men are seen together partaking of liquor, and the quantity they are sitting over be considered as too small by free drinkers (it may be half a pint for both), in this case a fine of half a pint is imposed for each man in the shop: an informant has seen sixty-two half pints imposed and exacted in such a case. This may be called the perfection of compulsory drinking usage. New clothes for a man of the shop, are wetted with a pint. The sum of 5s. is charged to any one for the first job he works of any particular difficult operation. A sort of watch-word is passed that there is ‘a mouse in the straw.’ The individual is kindly asked if ever he tried that kind of work before, as if with a view to assist him; but this is treacherous good-will—a simulation only of benevolence, and is made in order to ensnare the unfortunate artifice, into an acknowledgement which will subject him

legally, so to speak, to a smart imposition. When a tailor changes his lodgings, he must pay 1s. for drink, which the rest back with 3d. each.

“The captain of a board is a workman who is constant, not occasional, and has a certain charge—for instance, to see that clothes are made for customers in due time: for this situation he pays 5s. 6d. for drink money. Christmas-boxes are demanded from the woollen draper. On all national saints’ days, natives of each department of the three kingdoms pay for drink, according to a rule formerly laid down. On the occasion of the master being married, he gives 40s. to the men to drink, which they back with 2s. each.—One who by inadvertence snuffs out a candle is fined 6d.; one who vomits in the shop, a gallon of ale. Coming on Monday unshaved, or with a dirty shirt, 1s., backed with 6d. by each other man.

“The names of those men who are out of work, are in some places marked in a register house, where the employer has no choice but to take the first on the list. There was at first only one general society of tailors in England; it is now split into two divisions. The men who are members of either are called ‘flints;’ those who are not are called ‘dungs.’ At the meetings on a club night at the house of call, there is 3d. for each member to pay for drink in lieu of room rent. The few who attend drink the whole. Tramps with tickets get either a bed at the house of call, or money.

“The penalties for non-compliance with drinking usages are various. One is being ‘sent to Coventry,’ sometimes called being ‘made a dog.’ This is a most uncomfortable state for a tailor to be in. All manner of jeering and ill treatment is considered justifiable, nay, a matter of duty to the trade in this case. The culprit has broken a law of the business; he has aimed a blow at the social indulgences of all the tailors in the queen's dominions. It is therefore obligatory on every man to resent this as an injury done to his individual self. No mal-treatment is too severe for such a case. In the language of the shop, ‘waste meat and bones are thrown to dogs.’—This is such a pitiable state of debasement and excommunication from every good office, that besides paying up all fines and footings, there is sometimes 5s. imposed as a special amercement, before the culprit can be reinstated into ‘pitcher law.’ And, seriously speaking, it is perhaps difficult in modern times to point out a more grievous state of persecution than a man is hereby subjected to. The sleeve lining of a ‘dog’ is twisted and sewed up; triangular holes are cut in the rim of the hat; the man's clothes are sewed up in different forms, to look like a bundle of rags; candles are put out quickly at dismissal of the shop, and he cannot put himself to rights till he arrives at home. The seams of clothes and pockets are ripped open—an informant has known money thus lost; clothes are secreted and ‘put up the spout,’ (pawned.) The master, in all these cases, can give no relief. The unfortunate non-conformist, wearied out with a series of insult and injury, must, at length, yield to the influence of drinking usage: the young are led to consider drinking as a necessary business and duty of life; and are soon as inexorable as their neighbors, in exaction to support the system; while the wretched men whom this wretched tyranny has compelled into habits of inebriation, find it impossible to retrieve their character, or alter their conduct, amid the unconquerable craving of a vitiated appetite, seconded by the invincible pressure of perpetual and systematic compulsion.”

School Books.

The following notice lately handed us by Rev. Wm. Case, of East Windsor, adds another to the long list of testimonials in favor of the School Books mentioned by the writer.

MR. G. ROBINS, JR.,

DEAR SIR,—I have examined the School Books which you put into my hands, viz.:—Reader's Manual, Primary Reader, Olney's Arithmetic, Manual of the Constitution, and Olney's Introduction to the study of Geography. The Reader's Guide, published by you, I have previously examined.

The three Reading Books, Guide, Manual, and Reader, by Judge Hall, I consider a decided improvement on the books heretofore in use. They are designed for different classes in our public schools, and each book is distinct from the others in matter, except the Manual contains an abstract of the copious principles of reading which are laid down and illustrated in the Guide. There is a pleasing variety in the lessons, the pieces are good specimens of style, and of good moral tendency. I hope these books will soon be introduced into all our public schools.

The Manual of the Constitution, and the Introduction to Geography, are valuable school books. The Arithmetic by Mr. Olney, is on the inductive principle, and has excellencies which a discerning public cannot fail to appreciate. It pursues the desirable medium between those works which assert the principles of the science without explanation and those which so abound in explanations as to leave almost nothing for the pupil to learn. It contains a new and convenient method of extracting the cube root. It is copious and lucid on the subjects of ratio, interest, commission, taxation, &c., and is in all respects deserving of extensive patronage. The quotations arranged under the head of Mental Arithmetic in the beginning of the treatise, will supersede the necessity of purchasing the smaller works, while independently of these it is sufficiently extensive to meet the wants of the largest classes in our public schools.

With sentiments of respect, yours,

WILLIAM CASE.

These books may be obtained of the publisher in Hartford, or any of the Trade in this city, and other towns in New England or New York.

Jan. 10, 1840. 6w43

NEW MILLINERY GOODS,

AND LATEST FRENCH FASHIONS.

MISS C. PETTIBONE, would inform the Ladies that she has just received from New York a large and elegant assortment of MILLINERY and FANCY GOODS, consisting in part of Groceries, corded, changeable, plain and figured Silks and Satins, uncut Velvets, and other rich materials for winter Hats. A large assortment of rich embroidered Satin and plaid Ribbons, of an entire new style, French collars, embroidered scarfs, Chenille cord, various kinds of silk, wire, nett, and thread lace, French Flowers, a large assortment of Silk Hats and Hoods. Also, the latest patterns for Cloaks and Dresses. 235 Main street.

Hartford, Nov. 22, 1839. 3w36

CAPS.

OTTER, Fur Seal, Hair Seal, Scalet, and Broad-cloth Caps, Men's and Boys', of all the various Fashions. Also, a selected assortment of prime Buffalo Robes.

HOADLEY & CHALKER.

December 27, 1839. 41

FOR SALE.

THE CONVERT'S GUIDE to the First Principles of Evangelical Truth, sustained by the united testimony of our Lord Jesus Christ, the holy Apostles, and many Pedobaptist Divines, and others. Compiled by I. ROBINSON, Pastor of the Baptist Church, New Haven, Conn.

GURDON ROBINS, JR.

BLANKS.

STAFF and Warrant Officers Blanks, and Military Executions kept constantly for sale by

GURDON ROBINS, JR.

AN IMPROVED SYSTEM OF ARITHMETIC,

FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES.

BY J. OLNEY, A. M.

THIS work, greatly enlarged, improved, and stereotyped, has just been published by Canfield & Robins, and is for sale by the Publishers and the Trade, in Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and Booksellers generally. The following are among the recommendations of this work, recently received.

“STONINGTON, July 14, 1839.

“This is to certify, that I have examined Olney's Arithmetic, and consider it better calculated to facilitate the progress of scholars in this branch, than any other work I have seen; and shall introduce it into my school as soon as practicable. The improvements in this work are numerous and important. I can therefore cheerfully recommend it to the attention of Teachers, and all who feel an interest in the improvement of our Schools.

B. F. HEDDEN.”

Teacher of the Public School, Mystic Bridge, Stonington, Conn.

“PORTERSVILLE, July 17, 1839.

“Having partially examined Olney's ‘Improved System of Arithmetic,’ I can say that so far as I have examined, I think this work far superior to any other with which I have become acquainted; and I intend to introduce it into the School under my charge as soon as practicable; and would cheerfully recommend it to Teachers and others engaged in promoting education.

DUDLEY A. AVERY,

Teacher of the Public School Portersville, Conn.

“STONINGTON, July 16, 1839.”

“This may certify that I have examined a system of Arithmetic by J. Olney, A. M., and consider it superior to any similar work that I have seen. It embraces many improvements, among which is a new method of extracting Roots, which saves an abundance of labor, both of teacher and scholar. It is my intention to introduce it into my school at the earliest opportunity; and I can cheerfully recommend it to the attention of others.

LATHROP W. WHEELER,

Principal of Select School, Stonington Borough, Ct.”

“STONINGTON, July 16, 1839.”

“Having recently had opportunity to examine a system of Arithmetic by J. Olney, A. M., I am pleased to say that I can accord to it my unqualified approbation. It possesses many and decided improvements over those already in use; as it contains some things entirely new, and simplifies and abridges some rules which have been both tedious and perplexing. It is just such a work as is needed in our Schools, and will be found an invaluable acquisition to our primary books. I have had occasion to instruct in almost all the systems now used, and think this should, as I hope it speedily will, take the place of them all.

EBENEZER DENISON, JR.”

“NEW LONDON, July 19, 1839.”

“I have had opportunity but for a cursory examination of Olney's ‘Improved System of Arithmetic,’ yet feel prepared to express a decidedly favorable opinion of its merits. Among many excellencies which it has in common with other similar treatises of deserved reputation, are some peculiar to itself, such as the clear analysis from which is deduced the rule of operation in the solution of problems, the demonstration of the ground rules, &c., which entitle it to the very favorable consideration and patronage of the judicious public.

J. E. WOONWORTH,

Teacher of New London Grammar School.”

“NEW LONDON, July 19, 1839.”

“From a partial examination of Olney's System of Arithmetic, I think it admirably adapted to the capacities of children and youth, and the plan of the arrangement is, I think, calculated to supercede the necessity of smaller manuals, as well as other Arithmetics in our public schools. I design to introduce it as fast as opportunity may permit.

SANFORD B. SMITH,

Teacher of New London Public School.”

From Rev. J. Going, D. D., President of Granville College, Ohio.

This treatise on Arithmetic will, we think, fully sustain his previous reputation as a writer of school classics. It contains a great deal in a small compass, being more comprehensive in its plan than most works of an elementary character, at the same time that it is as simple as the nature of the case admits or requires. In the second part to each branch of the science, he gives an illustration of each rule and process, and thus renders it an intelligible and rational affair. The author thus avoids the two extremes found in many other works—of either being, on the one hand, altogether didactic, affording to the pupil mere authority, or, on the other, of explaining and simplifying every thing to insipidity.

In the hands of a skillful teacher, this work will well prepare the learner who shall thoroughly study it, for the counting-room, and enable him to perform, with facility, the various arithmetical calculations required in the business transactions of life.

From Rev. E. Davis, late Principal of Westfield Academy, Mass.

I have examined Olney's Arithmetic, and have submitted it to some few school teachers. It is our unanimous opinion, that it is a very valuable book—one that we can conscientiously recommend.

Yours, &c. E. DAVIS.

The work is published and for sale by

GURDON ROBINS, JR.

180 Main-Street.

August 30, 1839.



THE subscribers have just received a new assortment of Watches, Jewelry, Cutlery, &c. Also, Silver Spoons and Spectacles, manufactured expressly for the retail trade.

Personal attention paid to repairing all kinds of Watches and time pieces.

STEELE & CROCKER,

Exchange Buildings, 192 Main st.

Nov. 15, 1839. 3w36

NEW GOODS.

J. W. DIMOCK & CO., MERCHANT TAILORS, HAVE just received their Fall supply of Goods, comprising a very general assortment, which they offer their customers on reasonable terms.

FALL FASHIONS received.

P. S. A superior article of Coat and Over Coat Cord, and Mohair Fringe for Ladies' Cloaks.

October 30.

BARGAINS.

E. BLISS & CO., now offer to purchasers of the Pilot Cloth, Cassimere, Satinets, Flannels, Shirtings, Linen Napkins, Brown and White Damask Table Cloths, Linen Cambric Handkerchiefs, Pongee do. Hosiery, &c.

ALSO, 2500 Yds. black, blue, black, and colored Silks, 1000 “Bombazines, some of superior quality, 2300 “French, English and German Merinos, 5000 “Calicoes, from 6 1/2 to 42 cts. per yard. Together with a general assortment of GOODS, many of which have been purchased since the pressure in the money market, and shall be sold cheap to comport with the times.

N. B. Any Goods sold, not answering the description given, can be returned, and the money refunded. WANTED, in exchange for Dry Goods, 1000 lbs. Flannel, 300 pairs Woolen Socks and Stockings, 500 runs Mix'd and White Yarn, and cash in any quantity.

E. BLISS & CO., No. 232 Main-st.

Hartford, Nov. 9, 1839. 6w24

NOTICE.

G. Robins, Jr., having purchased of P. Canfield all his right in the Book Stock, Stereotype Plates, and copyright of the late firm of Canfield & Tobin, will continue the business of Bookselling and Publishing, as heretofore, and respectfully solicits a continuance of the public patronage. G. R. Jr., would also request the attention of Teachers, School Committees, and others, to a series of valuable SCHOOL BOOKS, which he publishes, and which he flatters himself cannot fail of meeting their approbation, among which are,—

THE READER'S GUIDE, for High Schools and Academies, by John Hall, Esq., Principal of Ellington High School.

THE READER'S MANUAL, for Common Schools, and the PRIMARY READER, for the younger classes in Common Schools, by the same author.

A PRACTICAL SYSTEM OF ARITHMETIC, by J. Olney, Esq. New edition, revised, improved, and stereotyped.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF GEOGRAPHY, for children, with 8 maps from steel, and more than 70 engravings.

YOUTH'S MANUAL OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE U. STATES, with Questions; adapted to the use of Schools.

MARSHALL'S SYSTEM OF PENMANSHIP; Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, with copies attached.

MARSHALL'S SYSTEM OF BOOK-KEEPING, by single entry.

—ALSO—

A full assortment of School, Classical, Theological and Miscellaneous Books, which he will sell on the most accommodating terms.

*Merchants, School Teachers, and Library Companies, supplied at the lowest rates.

G. ROBINS, JR., 180 Main street.

Hartford, Sept. 1, 1839. 6w25

BROADCLOTHS, &c.

JUST received a large assortment of Broadcloths, Cassimeres, Satinets, Pilot and Beaver Cloth, great variety of colors, quality, &c. Prices will be satisfactory, if half the customary price will do it. Please call and examine at 236 Main street.

A. F. ALPRESS.

November 22.

BLACK GROUND CHINTZ PRINTS.

JUST received, both British and French, some in oil colors, splendid patterns. For sale cheap.

A. F. ALPRESS.

W. S. CRANE,

DENTIST.

Exchange Buildings, North of State House.

REFERENCES.—Messrs. E. & J. Parnells, J. W. Crane, M. D., J. D. Stout, M. D., E. Bryant, New York.

March 31st, 1838. 12

HARTFORD

Fire Insurance Company.

Office north side of State-House Square, between the Hartford and Exchange Banks.

THIS Institution is the oldest of the kind in the State, having been established more than twenty-five years. It is incorporated with a capital of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars, which is invested and secured in the best possible manner. It insures Public Buildings, Churches, Dwellings, Stores, Merchandise, Furniture, and Personal Property generally, from loss or damage by Fire, on the most favorable and satisfactory terms.

The Company will adjust and pay all its losses with liberality and promptitude, and thus endeavor to retain the confidence and patronage of the public.

Persons wishing to insure their property, who reside in any town in the United States, where this Company has no Agent, may apply through the post office directly to the Secretary; and their proposals shall receive immediate attention.

The following gentlemen are Directors of the Company.

Eliphalet Terry,	Job Allyn,
S. H. Huntington,	George Putnam,
H. Huntington, Jr.	Junius S. Morgan,
Albert Day,	Ezra White, Jr.
John D. Russ,	ELIPHALET TERRY, Pres't.

JAMES G. BOLLES, Sec'y.

March 23, 1838. 151

ETNA

INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated for the purpose of insuring against Loss and Damage by Fire only. CAPITAL, \$200,000.

SECURED and vested in the best possible manner—offer to take risks on terms as favorable as other offices.

The business of the company is principally confined to risks in the country, and therefore so detached that its capital is not exposed to great losses by sweeping fires.

The office of the company is in the new Etna Building, next west of Treat's Exchange Coffee House, State street, Hartford, where a constant attendance is given for the accommodation of the public.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY ARE

Thomas K. Brace,	Stephen Spencer,
Thomas Belden,	James Thomas,